

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
  - forming a safety sign, including forming an EL lighting surface into a chosen pattern;
  - attaching the safety sign to one or more vehicles, wherein the safety sign is attached to a rear end of the vehicle so that at least one portion of the safety sign is proximate the driver's side of the vehicle to allow a driver behind the vehicle to be able to locate the rear and driver's side edge of the vehicle based on the visibility of the safety sign; and
  - driving at least two of the vehicles in a formation on the road wherein the safety signs are visible to provide guidance for at least one ~~[[the]]~~ driver of at least one of the vehicles; and  
further wherein the formation of the vehicles provides that at least two of the vehicles are at least partially laterally offset from one another with respect to a direction of travel.
2. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
  - forming a safety sign, including:
    - selecting a pattern to convey a visual safety message;
    - attaching the pattern to an EL lighting surface;
  - attaching the safety sign to one or more vehicles, wherein the safety sign is attached to a rear end of the vehicle so that at least one portion of the safety sign is proximate the driver's side of the vehicle to allow a driver behind the vehicle to be able to locate the rear and driver's side edge of the vehicle based on the visibility of the safety sign; and
  - driving at least two of the vehicles in a formation on a road wherein the safety signs are visible to provide guidance for at least one ~~[[the]]~~ driver of at least one of the vehicles; and  
further wherein the formation of the vehicles provides that at least two of the vehicles are at least partially laterally offset from one another with respect to a direction of travel.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the vehicles include snow plows.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein selecting a pattern to convey a visual safety message includes selecting a text message.
5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein attaching the pattern to an EL lighting surface includes attaching the pattern to an EL lighting surface with a yellow color when the EL lighting surface is illuminated.
6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein attaching the pattern to an EL lighting surface includes attaching the pattern to a substantially flat EL lighting surface dimensioned to comply with safety sign regulations.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein attaching the pattern to an EL lighting surface includes attaching the pattern to a substantially flat EL lighting surface of approximate rectangular dimensions of 72 inches wide and 8.5 inches tall.
8. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
  - forming one or more safety signs wherein each safety sign, includes:
    - selecting a pattern to convey a visual safety message;
    - attaching the pattern to an EL lighting surface;
    - attaching the safety sign to a transportation vehicle carrying an oversized load, wherein the safety sign is attached to a rear end of the vehicle so that the safety sign extends from one proximate the driver's side of the vehicle to another end proximate the passengers side of the vehicle to allow a driver behind the vehicle to be able to locate the rear and the driver's side edge and the passenger's side edge of the vehicle based on the visibility of the safety sign; and
    - driving the vehicle on a road wherein the safety sign is visible to provide warning of the oversized load and to alert drivers behind the vehicle to the sides of the vehicle.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein [[the]] there is at least one more vehicle driven in front of the vehicle and the at least one more vehicle includes a safety sign [[is]] attached to the front of the transportation vehicle.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein at least one safety sign is attached to at least one mud guard.

12-23. (Cancelled)